



STATE OF INDIANA

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**For Immediate Release**

### **Indiana's New Smoke-Free Air Law Likely Self Enforcing**

**INDIANAPOLIS (June 29)** – The Indiana Alcohol & Tobacco Commission, the lead enforcement agency for Indiana's new Smoke-Free Air Law expects the law to be largely self enforcing.

While the ATC's enforcement division, the Indiana State Excise Police, will take a lead role in enforcing the new law, experience in other states indicates little enforcement will be necessary. Instead, excise police officers will spend most of their time educating those affected by the law on how to comply. Already, excise officers have been to countless businesses, fraternal and social clubs and community events all across the state.

The smoking law, which takes effect July 1, 2012, may also be enforced by the State Department of Health, local health departments, the division of fire and building safety and any law enforcement officer.

Complaints alleging violations of the new law may be filed online at [www.in.gov/atc/2640.htm](http://www.in.gov/atc/2640.htm). Violations are a Class B Infraction, which may result in a fine up to \$1,000 per violation. The law also prevents employers from discharging, refusing to hire or retaliating in any way against an individual for reporting a violation of the Smoke-Free Air Law or exercising any right under it.

Most other states, as well as the 42 Indiana municipalities with local smoking prohibitions, have found that the laws result in few violations being issued, as most people simply comply with the law.

Additional information about Indiana's Smoke-Free Air Law can be found on the ATC's website, [www.in.gov/atc](http://www.in.gov/atc).